

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Military Activities in the Area of the Mechanized Division Eggesin

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED 12 January 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. From 15 to 26 November 1954, the strength of the mortar regiment of Division Eggesin was estimated to be 550 to 600 men. It was planned to bring the unit to an authorized strength of 800 men by 1 December. The arrival of enlisted replacements for this purpose was awaited.

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2. The regiment was organized into the headquarters, the command platoon, and the 1st through 3d Bns. Each battalion included the headquarters and three companies, each company included three platoons. Ordnance in stock totalled 56 x 120-mm mortars. Ten trucks were used as supply vehicles, and about 80 more trucks were housed and serviced near the billets of the 3d Mecz Regt.

3. Officers of the mortar regiment included Lieutenant Colonel Schmidt, regimental commander; Captain Kneiphoff (fnu), chief of staff; Hess (fnu), captain; Captain Kastner (fnu), political officer; Captain Schmidt (fnu), captain; Senior Lieutenant Wienka (fnu), commander of the 1st Bn; Senior Lieutenant Alten (fnu), commander of the 2d Bn; and Senior Lieutenant Moos (fnu), commander of the 3d Bn.

4. Effective after 1 December, two lieutenants of the regimental headquarters were scheduled to be reassigned and Senior Lieutenant Rosenke was to be detached to a school.

5. On 1 December 1954, the AAA unit in Altwarp which was commanded by Major Rau (fnu) was observed at a roll call. In numbered about 400 officers and enlisted men. Major Rau discussed the new training directives. Between 27 November and 2 December, 10 officers who included Captain Petrov (fnu), the previous chief of staff, and Captain Schaedlich (fnu), the previous political officer, were reassigned to other units or schools. On 30 November and 1 December, a total of 9 recruits received their uniforms. In late November, 8 trucks which were personnel carriers were supplied to the unit. All other motor vehicles and guns were on blocks in the garages.

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6. From 15 to 26 November 1954, the strength of and the driving-school activity at the driving school unit in Altwarp were unchanged.

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7. At a roll call of the 2d Mecz Regt which held in Karpin on 2 December, it was announced that only fatigue duty would be done until 20 December 1954. Reenforced training would be resumed only after New Year's Day when the furlough period was over. The status of training which was affected by the harvesting activity was to be improved rapidly. It was announced that for each soldier of the first leave group who failed to return from leave, a soldier of the second leave group would be obliged to give up his furlough.
8. Prior to [REDACTED] the following officers were promoted or reassigned: Colonel [REDACTED] was promoted to the rank of major [REDACTED] (fnu), the previous chief of staff of the 2d Bn of the 2d Mecz Regt, was reassigned to the regimental headquarters. Major Schwenke (fnu), the previous director of training of the 2d Mecz Regt, became commander of the 3d Mecz Regt and was succeeded by one Major Johns (fnu). Senior Lieutenant Paul (fnu) was reassigned from the 2d Mecz Regt to the 3d Mecz Regt. Captain Kaulmann (fnu), previous finance officer of the 2d Mecz Regt, and Senior Lieutenant Friedrich (fnu) were reassigned to the Neubrandenburg Registration Department. Major Schumann (fnu), the previous commander of the artillery battalion, and Captain Scharf, the previous commander of the tank battalion of the 2d Mecz Regt, were detached to a school for twelve months' training which was allegedly to prepare the trainees for their four years' instruction at the Moscow college. Major Grund (fnu), the previous chief of the Schwerin billeting office, became technical director of the Eggesin billeting office; this reassignment was a disciplinary measure.
9. About 250 recruits who arrived at Karpin prior to 12 December were divided up and assigned to the units.
10. The units stationed in Karpin were allegedly to be brought up to authorized strength on or before 1 January 1955. For this date, the billeting office of the 2d Mecz Regt had scheduled the provision of 56 bedsteads for each of 30 bedrooms.
11. In early December, the signal platoons of the battalions of the 2d Mecz Regt were assembled into a signal company which totalled 64 men. The signal personnel of the regimental headquarters stayed in the command company. On 11 December, the regimental school numbered exactly 118 men, mainly recruits.
12. On 28 November 1954, an atomic defense course terminated in Karpin. No details were known.
13. The construction of a gas defense training room commenced in the area of the 3d Mecz Regt.
14. In late November, preparatory measures for a major building project were observed in the area of the former brickyard on the southeastern perimeter of Eggesin. A field railway was already in operation at the site.
15. Motor vehicles which were parked under shedroofs in Section A of the Spechtberg installation in late November 1954 included 65 tanks and SP guns, 6 three-axle armored personnel carriers, and 6 model BA-64 armored scout cars. Seven T 34/85 tanks were serviced in the provisional workshop. Permanent garages for trucks were under construction.

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16. Sixty-nine tanks SP guns were parked under shedroofs in Section B of the installation. Completed garages housed about 50 trucks.
17. Eighteen T 34/85 tanks were housed in garages in Section C of the installation which was occupied by a tank instruction battalion.
18. In the Karpin installation, the construction of Section F was allegedly planned in the area southeast of Section E of the installation. The new section was allegedly scheduled to house an artillery ordnance repair base for Mechanized Division Eggesin. Prior to 1 December, no construction activity was observed.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. The present report substantiates previous statements [REDACTED] dating from early November. This regiment may have an authorized strength of 800 men although a corresponding Soviet regiment included only two battalions and is believed to have an authorized strength of about 600 men. Previous reports from the Eggesin billeting office have mentioned an authorized strength of 107 officers, 155 NCOs and 597 enlisted men, or a total of 859 men. [REDACTED]

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. The present report indicates that the strength of the AAA regiment is still the same as reported in September and October 1954. If all the discharges have been covered by the present report, the discharge of 8 soldiers on 25 October has been made up by the assignment of 9 recruits. [REDACTED]

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3. [REDACTED] Comment. Most officers who are mentioned in the present report have been known in their previous appointments. One Major Johns (fnu) has been known as commander of the 3d Mecz Regt prior to the summer of 1954. He has possibly been superseded by Major Schwenke (fnu), who has good qualifications, and has taken over Schwenke's previous appointment as deputy commander of the 2d Mecz Regt instead. Senior Lietau Lieutenant Paul (fnu) has been the previous commander of the 1st Bn of the 2d Mecz Regt.

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4. [REDACTED] Comment. A previous report [REDACTED] dating from about 8 November, has mentioned that this course of instruction has been opened. [REDACTED]

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5. [REDACTED] Comment. The present report generally agrees with previous statements [REDACTED] dating from late October. [REDACTED]

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
TOPIC	Military Activities in the Area of the Mechanized Division Eggesin		
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTENT			25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	12 January 1955 25X1
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From 21 to 26 November 1954, the strength of the mortar regiment of the Mechanized Division Eggesin was estimated to be 600 men. It was allegedly planned to bring the unit to an attack on the city of Gdansk on 1 December. The arrival of enlisted replacements for this purpose was awaited.

The regiment was organized into the headquarters, the command platoon, and the 1st through 3d Bns. Each battalion included the headquarters and three companies, each company included three platoons. Ordnance in stock totaled 50 x 120 mm mortars. Ten trucks were used as supply vehicles, and about 80 more trucks were housed and serviced near the barracks of the 3d Mecz Regt.

Officers of the mortar regiment included Lieutenant Colonel August Schaefer, regimental commander; Captain Kneiphoff (fnu), chief of staff; Captain Hess (fnu), operations officer; Captain Kastner (fnu), political officer; Captain Fritz Salchow, supply officer; Senior Lieutenant Rosenke (fnu), commander of the 1st Bn; Senior Lieutenant [redacted] (fnu), commander of the 2d Bn; and Senior Lieutenant Moos (fnu), commander of the 3d Bn.

Effective after 1 December, two lieutenants of the regimental headquarters were scheduled to be reassigned and Senior Lieutenant Rosenke was to be detached to a school.

On 1 December 1954, the AAA unit in Altwarp which was commanded by Major Rau (fnu) was observed at a roll call. In numbered about 400 officers and enlisted men. Major Rau discussed the new training directives. Between 27 November and 2 December, 10 officers who included Captain Petrov (fnu), the previous chief of a [redacted] Captain Schaedlich (fnu), the previous political officer, were reassigned to other units or schools. On 30 November and 1 December, a total of 9 recruits received their uniforms. In late November, 8 trucks which were personnel carriers were supplied to the unit. All other motor vehicles and guns were on blocks in the garages.

From 15 to 26 November 1954, the strength of and the driving school activity at the driving school unit in Altwarp were unchanged.

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7. At a roll call of the 2d Mecz Regt which held in Karpin on 2 December, it was announced that only fatigue duty would be done until 20 December 1954. Reenforced training would be resumed only after New Year's Day when the furlough period was over. The status of training which was affected by the harvesting activity was to be improved rapidly. It was announced that for each soldier of the first leave group who failed to return from leave, a soldier of the second leave group would be obliged to give up his furlough.
8. Prior to 11 December, the following officers were promoted or reassigned: Colonel **Siegfried Weiss**, division commander, was promoted to the rank of major general. Senior Lieutenant Freudenberg (fnu), the previous chief of staff of the 2d Bn of the 2d Mecz Regt, was reassigned to the regimental headquarters. Major Schwenke (fnu), the previous director of training of the 2d Mecz Regt, became commander of the 3d Mecz Regt and was succeeded by one Major Johns (fnu). Senior Lieutenant Paul (fnu) was reassigned from the 2d Mecz Regt to the 3d Mecz Regt. Captain Kaulmann (fnu), previous finance officer of the 2d Mecz Regt, and Senior Lieutenant Friedrich (fnu) were reassigned to the Neubrandenburg Registration Department. Major Schumann (fnu), the previous commander of the artillery battalion, and Captain Scharf, the previous commander of the tank battalion of the 2d Mecz Regt, were detached to a school for twelve months' training which was allegedly to prepare the trainees for their four years' instruction at the Moscow college. Major Grund (fnu), the previous chief of the Schwerin billeting office, became technical director of the Eggesin billeting office; this reassignment was a disciplinary measure.
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